

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 INT-08 COA-02 EB-11 CG-00 COME-00

DOTE-00 NSF-04 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 JUSE-00 RSR-01 /073 W

----- 098197

R 310747Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 869

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4021

FOR ELY MAURER - L, DEPT OF STATE AND MARTIN PROCHNIK,
AS/EM, DEPT OF INTERIOR, FROM LEIGH RATINER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY, EMIN, XV, US

SUBJ: CLEARANCE OF MEMORANDUM AR/WGC/3 IMPLICATIONS OF ANY
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA ON US LAW OF
THE SEA INTERESTS

1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO YOUR MEMORANDUM OF JULY 11 TO
MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUP C INDICATING THAT MY CLEARANCE
HAS BEEN OBTAINED FOR AR/WGC/3 SUBJECT TO FOLLOWING
ADDITION: QTE IN ADDITION, THE MORATORIUM ISSUE SHOULD
BE CAREFULLY HANDLED BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL SENSI-
TIVITIES IT EVOKES WITHIN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE
INHERENT DIFFICULTIES OF NEGOTIATING A SATISFACTORY
RESOLUTION. UNQTE

2. POSSIBLY THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONFUSION DUE TO MY
ABSENCE FROM WASHINGTON BUT ABOVE TEXT DOES NOT MEET
INTERIOR'S OBJECTIONS TO MORATORIUM SECTION OF SUBJECT
MEMORANDUM. FOLLOWING TEXT SHOULD BE SUBSTITUTED IN
ORDER TO NOT PREJUDICE INTERIOR'S POSITION ON MORATORIUM
ISSUE: QTE IN ADDITION, EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT
MORATORIA, ONCE ADOPTED, ARE DIFFICULT TO REVERSE.
DESPITE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF LEGAL POISITIONS THAT
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MORATORIA ARE NOT BINDING, WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR THE

CONCEPT AMONG OTHER STATES TENDS IN PRACTICE TO CREATE
POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES WHICH LIMIT THE OPTIONS
AVAILABLE TO THE PRESIDENT AT A LATER TIME TO DECIDE
TO ACT IN DISREGARD OF SUCH MORATORIA. THUS, THE
ISSUE MUST BE HANDLED WITH GREAT CARE IN ORDER TO AVOID
HAVING THIS EFFECT. UNQTE.BASSIN

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NNN

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BASSIN
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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